

A new find of the fossil *Cyclosorus* from the Eocene of South China and its paleoclimatic implication

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Abstract

© 2015, The Botanical Society of Japan and Springer Japan. The thelypteroid ferns are widely distributed across tropical regions around the world, but information about their fossil representatives is scarce. A new species, *Cyclosorus scutum* Naugolnykh, Wang, Han et Jin was discovered from the Eocene Changchang Formation of Hainan Island, South China, and is described on the basis of sterile and fertile leaves, sori, sporangia and spores preserved in situ. Discovery of this new species clearly shows that climatic conditions of that time in this area were humid, i.e. warm and wet.

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Keywords

Cyclosorus, Eocene, Ferns, Paleoclimate, South China, Thelypteridaceae